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Report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa **Gomes** (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council" and to consider it directly in plenary meeting.

2. The Second Committee considered and adopted a draft resolution under this item at its 31st and 32nd meetings, on 22 November and 1 December 2006. An account of the Committee's deliberations is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.31 and 32).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.46 and Rev.1

3. At the 31st meeting, on 22 November, the representative of Australia, on behalf also of Canada and Finland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Proclamation of international years" (A/C.2/61/L.46), which read:

> "*The General Assembly*,
>
> "*Recalling* its resolution 53/199 of 15 December 1998 on the proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries,
>
> "*Recognizing* the contribution that the celebration of international years can make to the furtherance of international cooperation and understanding,
>
> "*Mindful* of the need to consider carefully proposals for the designation of international years and anniversaries,

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"*Invites* the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of Member States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system the guidelines for future international years contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980, as adopted by the General Assembly in its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980, and calls upon Member States to take into account and apply the criteria and procedures contained in those guidelines in considering future proposals for international years."

4. At its 32nd meeting, on 1 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/61/L.46/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.46 and Andorra, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, Poland, the Republic of Korea, San Marino, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Austria, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Moldova, Monaco, Serbia and Norway joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the revised draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

6. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.46/Rev.1 (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Proclamation of international years

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/199 of 15 December 1998 on the proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and the annex thereto, adopted by the General Assembly in its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to draw the attention of the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to the guidelines for future international years contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, and to make those guidelines available;

2. *Stresses the need* to take into account and apply the criteria and procedures contained in the guidelines in considering future proposals for international years.